MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 MARCH 1981

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Good Offices Committee--The Islamic Conference good offices committee left Jidda on 30 March for Tehran, SPA reported. The previous day, Riyadh television reported that after a committee meeting spokesman Habib Chatti, Islamic Conference secretary general, said the committee will discuss an amendment to its previous proposals with Iranian and Iraqi officials. On the same day, Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, a member of the good offices committee, arrived in Iran and held a lengthy meeting with Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

Bani-Sadr on Peace Terms--In a 29 March interview with Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr said Iran is "steadfast" in holding to its three conditions for a cease-fire: 1) the aggression should be investigated; 2) the solution should be based on the 1975 Algiers agreement; 3) a cease-fire should be simultaneous with the withdrawal of Iraqi forces.

Saddam Husayn Speech--Addressing a gathering in northern Iraq on 29 March, President Saddam Husayn declared that he will tell the good offices committee, due to arrive in Baghdad on 31 March, that Iraq refuses to withdraw "1 inch" before its full national and pan-Arab rights are recognized. In his speech, carried by Baghdad radio and INA, he added that Iraq's "leniency" at the beginning of the war has now been replaced by "stubbornness in defense of our martyrs' blood." He reiterated that Iraq will support the "struggler people of Arabistan" and "all nationalities and national movements" in Iran, helping them overthrow the present Iranian regime. In another speech reported by the radio, the Iraqi president said 1 million Iraqis must be ready at any time to bear arms.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported continuing artillery battles along Iran's western fronts on 28 and 29 March. Iraqi General Command communiques carried by INA on those days reported that Iraqi planes hit targets in the Dezful region and claimed successful attacks in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Abadan and Gilan-e Gharb regions.

Iran

Assassination Attempt--Tehran radio reported on 28 March that an unsuccessful assassination attempt was made on Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, a member of the Council of Guardians and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's representative in Fars Province. It added that Shirazi, who was shot in the neck, was in satisfactory condition. According to AFP, citing the newspaper ETTELA'AT, the Islamic socialist group Forqan has claimed responsibility for the attempt, which took place in Shiraz. Citing the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, Tehran radio's Arabic service reported on 30 March that two members of Forqan were arrested on suspcion of involvement in the assassination attempt.

MIZAN Criticizes Beheshti--AFP reported that the newspaper MIZAN has called on Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti to relinquish his presidency of the Supreme Court on the grounds that holding the post is incompatible with his political affiliations. As leader of the Islamic Republican Party, Beheshti cannot be expected to impartially judge in political cases, MIZAN said.

Amir Entezam Trial--The trial of former Deputy Prime Minister 'Arbas Amir Entezam continued on 28 March, Tehran radio reported. Amir Entezam, who held his post during the government of Mehdi Bazargan, began his defense and asked that the trial be broadcast on the radio and television network.

Arms Depot Explosion--The clandestine Radio Iran alleged in a 27 March commentary that a 24 March fire at the Tehran headquarters of the Central Revolution Committee resulted when the "arms depot" there was "blown up in accordance with a previously planned program." Tehran radio had earlier reported that the fire was caused by an "electrical fault."

Qashqa'i Unrest--Radio Iran reported on 28 March that a "war" has broken out near Kazerun between revolutionary guards and tribesmen of Iran's largest nomadic tribe, the Qashqa'is. A report in ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, cited by AFP, confirmed that clashes have taken place.

Egypt

Talks on Sinai Force--According to reports by MENA, Egyptian and U.S. representatives held talks on 28 and 29 March about the formation of a multinational force to supervise Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai. The Egyptian representative, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Dr Usamah Al-Baz, said after the 28 March session that even if the force is not under UN auspices, this does not mean that the United Nations will have no role to play. Cairo radio reported that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told Finnish journalists on 28 March that some Latin American countries have expressed readiness to participate in a Sinai peacekeeping force. He said his tour of Scandinavian countries was not disappointing despite the refusal of Denmark, Norway and Finland to participate in such a force. Earlier, in an interview reported by Helsinki radio, 'Ali called for a "comprehensive" peace agreement and expressed interest in the Soviet Union's proposal for a comprehensive Middle East conference.

Agreement on Arms Purchases--Citing the weekly MAY, MENA reported that Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has revealed that Egypt and the United States have signed a loan agreement that will enable Egypt to purchase 40 F-16 aircraft, more than 300 tanks, 10,000 armored cars, auxiliary weapons, antiarmor guided missiles and modified Hawk air defense batteries.

Israeli Project Denounced--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has criticized the Israeli decision to dig a canal linking the Mediterranean and Dead Sea, Cairo radio reported. The decision, he said, violates the Camp David accords, the spirit of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, international law and the UN Charter and resolutions. He added that Egypt is considering the matter "very seriously."

Communists Arrested--Citing AL-JUMHIRIYAH, MENA reported that security forces have arrested 70 members of a new communist organization, 38 of whom are also members of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping.

Lebanon

During a weekend in which all monitored Lebanese radio broadcasts confirmed that the security situation in Beirut deteriorated as warring factions clashed frequently, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the occupants of an unidentified car opened fire on the U.S. Embassy on 27 March. Meanwhile, in the south, Beirut and Voice of Hope radios reported further artillery exchanges along the border strip on 29 March. According to Jerusalem radio, Christian militia commander Maj Sa'd Haddad said in a 28 March interview that if Lebanese Army troops reach the villages of Bra'shit and Ash-Shaqra, his forces will strike at them. AFP had earlier reported that in a 27 March broadcast on Voice of Hope radio, Haddad urged the Lebanese Government forces not to deploy in the south in order to "avoid a bloodbath" and warned that his forces are capable of "annihilating" UNIFIL forces and their allies.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Speech--In a speech to a 28 March rally in Tobruk, broadcast by Tripoli radio, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi denied the presence of Soviet bases in the country. Libya cherishes its friendship with the Soviet Union, Al-Qadhdhafi went on, but will never permit foreign bases of any kind on its territory. Those like Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Morocco that accuse Libya of harboring Soviet bases have opened their own lands to U.S. bases, the Libyan leader asserted. Noting the return to Libya of units that fought in Chad, Al-Qadhdhafi said he hopes that Libyan forces will be "completely withdrawn" from Chad "as soon as possible." Such a withdrawal could be "impeded," however, if Chad's neighbors "exploit" it, he added. Regarding Libya's relations with

Egypt, Al-Qadhdhafi said that Libya is ending its "military confrontation" along the border with Egypt. Regular forces have now evacuated the Tobruk region and have been replaced by the "armed people," he said. This will not weaken Libya, he asserted, since the regular forces can return to "the previous situation" if "confrontation is imposed" on Libya. He added that a "forest" of antiaircraft missiles remains in position in the Tobruk region. Al-Qadhdhafi also rebutted charges that Libya has "lost" in international politics and stressed his country's support for the revolutionary governments in Nicaragua and Iran.

Nuclear Research--AFP, citing the Paris-based magazine AL-MUSTAQRAL, reported that during his forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union, Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi will finalize an agreement with the Soviets on the installation of a nuclear research center in Libya.

Criticism of Arab League--In a 27 March statement to the UAE newspaper AL-KHALIJ, the head of Libya's delegation to the Arab League said that the Libyan memorandum calling for Sudan's expulsion from the Arab League was not "appropriately discussed" during the league's meetings in Tunis.

PDRY

In an interview published on 27 March by AL-KHALIJ, Deputy Prime Minister Anis Hasan Yahya said Oman "recently" staged an "air raid" against the PDRY. He also said the PDRY reserves the fight to retaliate "at the appropriate time."

Afghanistan

AFP reported that in a 29 March interview with the Indian news agency PTI, Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost indicated that the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan may be stepped up if an increase in Western support for the rebels changes the situation "for the worse."

Pakistan

Carrington Visit--According to Karachi radio, British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and Foreign Minister Agha Shahi held talks in Islamabad on 27 March during which they discussed the situation in Afghanistan, the Middle East problem and the Iran-Iraq conflict. Lord Carrington told a news conference on 28 March that Pakistan and Britain hold identical views on these issues, the radio reported.

Secret Agreement Denied--Karachi radio's English service reported on 27 March that a Foreign Office spokesman confirmed that Pakistan and the United States have been holding discussions on "certain American proposals, including military sales." He denied, however, that the two countries have concluded a "secret agreement" on such sales.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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NHK INTERVIEWS KARMAL ON SOVIET PRESENCE

OW300131 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 2249 GMT 29 Mar 81

["Recent" exclusive interview with Babrak Karmal, chairman of the DRA Revolution Council, by NHK correspondent Iida at the presidential mansion in Kabul--recorded; Iida asks questions in English, Karmal answers, presumably, in Dari; following translation of Karmal's remarks is from Japanese subtitles superimposed on the screen]

[Text] [Question] The Western world appears to have the impression that the Soviet forces might stay in Afghanistan for a long time or, in a word, almost permanently. How do you feel about it?

[Answer] I must say, first of all, that the Western media are hellbent on fabrication. A limited number of Soviet Armed Forces were invited here by our country under the provisions of the good-neighbor relations and friendship treaty. It is a formal treaty and conforms to the UN Charter. Our government had asked for the treaty to remove foreign aggression and intervention in our domestic affairs. The Soviet troop presence is by no means permanent, their stay is for the defense of our independence, freedom, sovereignty and territory. They will return home to their peace-loving country as soon as the problems here have been resolved.

[Question] It is also reported in the West that army units of some other countries friendly toward Afghanistan, including Cuba and some East European countries, are also stationed here; is it true?

[Answer] Let me make it clear once and for all: This is entirely a lie spread by Western media hostile to a revolutionary and independent Afghanistan. Absolutely no foreign troops are present in our country except the Soviet forces and the foreign diplomatic corps.

[Question] Would you kindly give some words to the Japanese people?

[Answer] My message to the peace-loving and diligent Japanese people is that they should not believe the lies and fictions spread by the Japanese mass media. The fact is that Afghanistan is a free, independent, nonaligned and peace-loving nation, and that a democratic national revolution against feudalism and imperialism is now in progress in our country. I wish the diligent and honest Japanese people peace and prosperity. Close friendship between the two nations is our desire.

[Question] Thank you, thank you very much, thank you indeed.

[Answer, in English] Thank you, thank you, well, thank you.

DELHI: KARMAL PRAISES GANDHI FOR STAND ON DRA

BK291611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan feels that Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi could play an important role in resolving the Afghan crisis. In an interview with an Indian journalist, Mr Karmal said that the people of Afghanistan hold Mrs Gandhi in great esteem. She stood firm on her stand on the Afghan issue. He said peace would prevail in Afghanistan once Pakistan and Iran give guarantees of noninterference.

DUST PENETRATES CALL FOR TALKS WITH NEIGHBORS

BK301034 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost has said that his country favors direct talks with Pakistan and Iran for a political solution of the Afghan problem.

In an interview to PTI he said a special representative of the UN secretary general should be present at such talks.

AFP: DOST SEES POSSIBLE INCREASE IN SOVIET PRESENCE

BK291633 Hong Kong AFP English 1620 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] New Delhi, 29 Mar (AFP)--Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost today indicated the possibility of an increase in Soviet military presence in Afghanistan if "new developments" change the present situation "for the worse", PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported from Kabul.

In an interview to the Indian news agency in the Afghan capital, Mr Dost said U.S. President Reagan's statement on supply of arms to insurgents and the "arrival of American and British mercenaries" in Pakistan were new developments which could not be ignored. "When all this changes the present situation and for the worse, definitely, we have to initiate necessary measures for our security, territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty", the minister told PTI.

About British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's current visit to Pakistan, Shah Dost charged that the British Government's attitude "to Afghanistan, its revolution and its government" had always been "tendentious and prejudiced". "Whatever he says and does is for the purpose of helping our antagonists", Mr Dost added.

The Afghan minister denied that Murtaza Ali Bhutto, son of Pakistan's late Premier Z.A. Bhutto, had been allowed to establish his base in Kabul to plot against the military regime of President Ziaul Haq, PTI reported. Murtaza Bhutto was allegedly the brain behind the recent hijacking of a Pakistan International Airlines plane first to Kabul and then to Damascus.

OANA: BABA JAN, LAKANWAL APPEARANCE BELIES PURGE

BK300756 Jakarta OANA in English 0719 GMT 30 Mar 81

["Pool item"]

[Text] Kabul, 28 Mar (PTI-OANA)--The chief of the Afghan Armed Forces, Gen Baba Jan and Deputy Agriculture Minister Mr Ghaffar Lakanwal have appeared over Kabul television belieing press reports of their purge. The BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION in a report about major changes in the ruling People's Democratic Party had said these two leaders had been stripped of their posts. Though there has been no direct official denial of the report, both Gen Baba Jan and Mr Lakanwal attended official functions on March 23 and yesterday to mark the Afghan New Year celebrations. The functions were televised live.

KESHTMAND OUTLINES BUDGET, PLAN TO REVOLUTION COUNCIL

LD271330 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1630 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Report by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and vice chairman of the Revolution Council, at a 19 March meeting of the DRA Revolution Council in Kabul--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] The meeting of the DRA Revolution Council is taking place at a time when two important and fundamental documents, the second plan [as heard] for social and economic development after the second stage of the Sawr Revolution and the DRA budget for 21 March 1981-21 March 1982, have been approved and forwarded for ratification.

They are of great importance in the socioeconomic life of the country.

A few essential points about the application of the 1980 economic plan: Despite counter-revolutionary attempts and criminal activities, noticeable achievements were made in the application of the plan for 1980. A number of state and various large-scale enterprises in 1980 increased their scale of production in comparison to 1979. Not only was their plan completely achieved but they also achieved a higher figure than they had set for themselves.

In agriculture, some products were increased in 1980 compared to the previous year. Foreign trade was successfully developed. A number of successes were also achieved in the field of education and training. The budget for 1980 for the first time was achieved without a deficit and more use was made of the country's financial resources. These sources were utilized to improve the social and economic position of the workers, raise their standard of living and strengthen the defense and security forces.

Our brother and friendly country, the USSR, and other socialist countries, in rendering their large and timely aid, provided these convenient opportunities so that in 1980 the national income increased by 4 percent. As a result, the economic capability of the country was fully utilized.

It is a part of the plans and policy for 1981 to strengthen the economic and government sector, develop the productive aspects of various branches, increase and develop foreign and domestic trade, develop social and various cultural (?plans), rebuild wrecked institutions, encourage the private seccor and strengthen the defense forces of the country.

The realization of the above requires that foreign and domestic resources be properly utilized. There should be a (?logical reduction) in government spending and all material and human resources should be tapped for the realization of the 1981 development plan. Thus, production [words indistinct] should increase 7.8 percent and should reach 45.7 billion afghanis. Meanwhile, national income will [words indistinct]

In reaching these goals, the 1981 DRA budget has been approved at 45.5 billion afghanis, which is 49 percent more than 1979's budget. Income from domestic sources has been estimated at 39.9 billion afghanis, 27.7 percent higher than in 1980, according to the estimated figure for this year, which is 21.1 percent or 5.24 billion afghanis higher. [sentence as heard]

The basic state expenditure is 29 billion afghanis and the development budget is estimated at 16.1 billion afghanis. The estimated expenditures are determined according to the socioeconomic development plans of the country and the development of the national sectors. These estimates have been approved. In addition, in accordance with the needs of the state security organs, their requirements in 1981 will amount to a little more than one-third of the state budget. Of this, 6.5 billion afghanis will come from home sources and 10 billion afghanis, or $199.6 million, from the friendly countries' and international institutions' grants-in-aid. This is a 57 percent increase over the estimated expenditures in 1980. The estimated foreign aid in 1981 from CEMA countries is up (?2) percent and that of USSR [passage indistinct].

The price of natural gas to the USSR will be increased by 30 percent on 21 March 1981. As a result, the income to the government will increase by 30 percent, or 4.4 billion afghanis, and total income from the sale of natural gas will be 13.5 billion afghanis.

The transportation of important goods and, primarily, the transport of food and fuels, will be noticeably improved. The volume of goods transported will be increased by 17 percent as compared to the previous year. The increase in the public sector will be 67.5 percent [passage indistinct].

In 1981 the volume of trade will be $1,428,100,000, which in comparison to the previous year's figure of $1,190,500,000 is a 20-percent increase of $237.6 million.

Over 114,000 new jobs will be provided by projects under construction, the continuation of development projects, a number of new industrial projects in the public sector which are beginning to bear fruit, the development of agriculture, transportation and communication and the development of service institutions. As a result, the number of employed will reach 4.35 million, or 85.2 percent of the country's total manpower.

In preparing the essential goods required by our people we shall utilize the grants-in-aid from the socialist countries, especially our great and traditional friend, the USSR, and we thank them for their assistance. The grant-in-aid from the USSR has an important place in the 1981 budget.

The 1981 plan and budget which has been scientifically devised by taking state income and other possibilities into account is an important one in the socioeconomic development of the country.

In the end, we ask of the DRA Revolution Council to issue the necessary instructions for the application of the socioeconomic development plan and the budget for this year.

KESHTMAND ADDRESS TO PRIME MINISTRY OFFICIALS

LD300926 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Address by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member, vice chairman of the Revolution Council and deputy prime minister, at the 28 March opening session of the first seminar of the general inspectorate and controllers of the Prime Ministry held at the hall of the Public Health Institute--recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades and friends, inspectors and respected colleagues participating in the seminar: The new development stage of our national and democratic revolution is the phase of democratization of the government apparatus and its transformation into an organization for public service, as demanded by the requirements of the day. The aim is to put the state control machinery at the service of building a new and democratic society. All the available material and human resources should be used to improve the material and moral living standard of the toilers of the country.

Before the success of the Sawr Revolution, during the period of Amin--traitor to the interests of the public--before the success of the new development phase of the revolution, public wealth was looted; irresponsibility, misuse and misappropriation were common and no legal measures were taken.

The PDPA and DRA, headed by Comrade Babrak Karmal, are paying great attention to drafting and applying socioeconomic plans and to the sensible and effective use of all of the country's resources.

The limited domestic financial resources and the development plan for the construction of a new, just, humane society make us earnestly dutybound to make maximum use of the existing resources and, by considering the maximum limit of savings, put to work the property and wealth of the people for their own wellbeing. Unjust use of public property and wealth and its embezzlement is a major crime.

It needs to be mentioned that no plan, no matter how practical or how scientifically it is prepared; no goal, no matter how great and important it is; no control, no matter how effectively it is prepared, can be put into practice unless there is a sincere faith, together with a revolutionary spirit, patriotic conscience and indefatigable efforts to fulfill our duty to serve the people.[applause]

Therefore, we expect you, inspectors and respected colleagues, to make a relentless effort by the deep realization of your duties, to eliminate bureaucracy and corruption in the government administration, prevent abuse and embezzlement of public property, and thus do your share for the progress and socioeconomic development of your country.

Respected colleagues, government in Democratic Afghanistan is no longer an apparatus for the oppression and persecution of the people or the guardian of the interests of a minority strata or the privileged ruling circles in society. It is at the service of the people and it is serving toward the achievements of the lofty,humane aspirations of the Sawr Revolution. I ask you, inspectors and respected colleagues, who are the employees of one of the most important and most responsible departments of the DRA Government, to put to work all your talents toward the realization of these aims for the purpose of rendering sincere service to the people. [applause]

Certainly you are aware of your great responsibility and the importance of your duties. You have the duty to struggle against misuse and embezzlement of finances and accounts in government departments. If, by abusing such positions, members of control and inspection--God forbid--embark on such action--action which they have been dutybound to prevent and inspect--such action would be very shameful. Resolute and revolutionary measures would be taken against such persons. Therefore, it is asked of you, respected colleagues, to accomplish your duties with deep, responsible feelings, seriously, resolutely and properly, but with a democratic and moderate approach. Proud and undesirable verbiage must never be used. Slackness and the nonimplementation of duties is unforgiveable. The suitability, sincerity and patriotic truthfulness in work will be the scale for judgment in the fixation of grades and in the delegation of careers.

I am confident that you, inspectors and respected colleagues, render your duties with a patriotic revolutionary spirit. While I consider the opening of this seminar with regard to the implementation and diagnoses of your duties as a beneficial step, I wish you further successes in the realization of the prepared work plan for the first quarter of the year 1981-82.

NEW TIMES CRITICIZES REAGAN PLAN TO ARM REBELS

BK291337 Kabul NEW TIMES in English 15 Mar 81 p 2

[Editorial: U.S. Interference in DRA Internal Affairs"]

[Text] The remark made by U.S. President Ronald Reagan about the arming of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries is a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the soverign, free and independent Afghanistan.

The assertion of the U.S. President made on March 9 in a TV press conference with the reporters was a reflection of the U.S. intention to impose the new U.S. administration's will on the revolutionary countries fighting for their freedom, independence, democracy, social justice and progress.

It must be recalled that since the inception and victory of Sawr Revolution almost three years ago U.S. imperialism strived to bring the new progressive regime into failure in revolutionary Afghanistan.

The CIA started provocations around Afghanistan; it made every effort to collect and embrace all the enemies of Sawr Revolution and Afghan counterrevolutionaries. With the collaboration of the U.S. allies, Chinese hegemonism and Pakistani militarism, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency set up training camps to train and arm counterrevolutionaries and mercenaries. Along with this it took another step trying to exploit the service of its agent Hafizollah Amin in the interest of imperialism. Through him it wanted to bring a friction and faction in the party and thus undermine the cause of Sawr Revolution, which was the product of long-year struggle of the working people, represented by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

During the Carter administration the people of the world in general and the Afghans in particular saw that armed bandits and employed agents and mercenaries were sent and exported into Afghanistan from the soil of Pakistan, whose ruling circles had offered its land to the imperialists and their allies to fight the revolution of Afghanistan.

When the Reagan administration came into power hopes were high that it would help strengthen peace and security and consolidate detente as the only alternative for the survival of mankind and human civilisation. However, unfortunately, ever since its inception, the Reagan administration has been talking from a position of power and strength showing reluctance in solving the international issues peacefully through negotiations. It has regretfully stepped up its military assistance to the military junta in El Salvador against the will of the freedom fighters and masses of people struggling against the oppression of the ruling circles. Rapid actions have been taken to concentrate arms and military network in Egypt. The whipping up of military build-up in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf areas is a cause of concern for the coastal states. The U.S. military presence is stepped up under the pretext of protecting and safeguarding its vital interests.

The United States of America is now trying to fan up the clashes on the Afghan-Pakistan borders. CIA has been spending millions of dollars to sponsor terrorist activity against Afghanistan. The money is spent to help the Pentagon strengthen its presence in our region. Pakistan has already been turned into a U.S. arsenal striving to carry out the political and military designs of imperialists in this part of the world.

The DRA Government in a statement has denounced the open U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and the support and military help it is going to give to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. The DRA Government statement describes the siding of the Reagan administration with the Afghan counterrevolutionaries as a "crude and flagrant violation of the basic norms of international law and the UN Charter."

We regret to note that U.S. imperialism, with its adventurist strategy, is endeavouring to undermine the process of detente and escalate arms race posing great threat to the very existence of the independent countries. The remark of U.S. President Reagan has also been met with hatred and indignation all over the progressive circles. These circles have denounced the intention of the United States new administration to help Afghan counter-revolutionaries and to implant the domination in the so-called zones of vital U.S. interests. The new U.S. administration poses new dangers to the peace and security of this region. We feel the United States must have learnt the lesson it took from the Vietnam war.

Under the prevailing tense situation we think the best way for the United States is to abandon the policy of dictate and interference in the internal affairs of other independent countries and let the peoples of the developing countries work hard for the consolidation of their national economies and raising their living standard.

ZIAUL HAQ: RELATIONS WITH U.S. 'UNDER REVIEW'

BK280900 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that Pakistan is working for a political solution of the Afghan problem; it is in touch with the Soviet Union in this connection and is pursuing the matter through the United Nations.

Talking to British journalists accompanying the British secretary of state in Rawalpindi yesterday, Ziaul Haq said he expects the free world to exert political pressure on the Soviet Union to the extent that this pressure is felt by the Soviet Union. He said Pakistan wants to make four points clear to the Soviet Union: Withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan; restoration of Afghanistan's status as an Islamic and nonaligned country; return of about 2 million refugees in Pakistan to their homeland with honor and dignity; and the opportunity for the Afghan people to have a government of their own choice.

The president made it clear that Pakistan is not ready to serve as a conduit for supplying arms to the Afghan freedom fighters. He said Pakistan is helping Afghan refugees purely on humanitarian grounds. When asked if he is satisfied with the aid provided to Pakistan for the Afghan refugees, he said it is encouraging that people have started looking into this issue from the proper perspective.

In reply to a question about the reported U.S. proposal for economic and military aid to Pakistan, the president said Pakistan would welcome economic aid, but as for military aid, he said, we have to look into all its implications. He said Pakistan definitely needs to be strengthened, but it does not want to involve itself in any military relationship as such.

Answering another question, the president said that if Pakistan acquires arms for its defense, he does not think that its nonaligned status can be challenged on this ground. The president said India, which is one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement, is acquiring arms worth $1.7 billion from the Soviet Union at concessional rates but nobody has challenged India's nonaligned status.

The president said Pakistan-U.S. relations are under a very active and serious review. Pakistan's dialogue with the United States covers various aspects, the most fundamental aspect being to determine U.S. interests in this region. He said it has to be determined whether or not these interests are of such a nature as to serve the cause of Pakistan as well.

Speaking about Pakistan's relations with China, he said that these are of a special nature and that China has helped Pakistan in different fields. It has always stood by Pakistan in many crises while many others did not. Answering a question, he said China is not supplying arms to the Afghan freedom fighters.

Referring to the internal situation, the president said the present government does not want to remain in power a day more than necessary. When asked about compulsive enforcement of the new provisional constitutional order, the president pointed out that a military regime could not be effective if it tried to act like a body of elected representatives. He said what they have tried to acquire for the present government is an authority under which the country could be administered better and more efficiently. He said that for 3 and 1/2 years his government adopted an indifferent attitude, which resulted in events like the hijacking and other subversive activities.

Foreign capital has been brought in to finance subversive activities and parties with (?ulterior) aims have tried to change the faith of the nation and destroy the foundations of the country. He said that when the country's administration is handed over to the people's representatives they will be able to run it in true democratic style. When asked how long it would take before he could end martial law, the president said it would not be too long. He added that it would take at least a year to restore normal conditions in which they can start this process.

ZIAUL HAQ DEFENDS DOMESTIC POLITICAL ACTIONS

BK290735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the objective behind the recent measures taken by the government was to assume powers for real service to the nation. Addressing a large gathering of the people and tribesmen in Naushehra this afternoon, he said the government had to take these measures after about 4 years of experience in the light of impending threats to the ideology of Pakistan and solidarity of the nation. He said the government was determined to continue serving the people till the emergence of the people's representatives chosen through an Islamic mode. Till then the present martial law government would continue its process with strictness so that the Islamic system could be enforced and law and order was restored.

The president recounted various impediments encountered by his government during the last 3 and 1/2 years and said the bottlenecks were created in the way of even such steps as were motivated for betterment of masses. But, he said, the government had taken these measures taking in view the objective conditions at the time when there was danger even to the country's integrity.

He said he had not touched the 1973 Constitution; they had no objection if it was a sacred document, but, he stressed, that if a military government was compelled to take the reins of the government on the representative call of the masses in the popular upsurge of 1977, no one should expect it to involve itself in politics for the sake of power. He said no one should have any doubt that this was the military government and would function as such till the restoration of normalcy in the country. The government was mindful of its responsibility to maintain law and order, improve national economy and ensure supremacy of law. There could be no compromise on these things.

The president said the elections would be held at an appropriate time through an Islamic mode for the choice of real representatives having Islamic and Pakistani orientation. There should be no illusion about this, he said. He said his government was prepared to consider and discuss the mode of elections on the basis of Islam. All the government's efforts will now be directed toward creating an atmosphere conducive to the holding of the elections.

Referring to the hijacking and other antistate activities, the president said the country was passing through a critical phase. He said although Pakistan had fought three wars during the past, the present subversive activities by the antistate elements posed the most serious threat to the country's solidarity and integrity. He said it was the duty of patriotic people to identify these elements. The government on its part would give exemplary punishment to them. He said no one would be allowed to attack the very roots of the country. We had so far displayed patience and tolerance, but time has come to take a firm stand on this question.

The president said till the assumption of responsibilities by the people's representatives chosen on the basis of Islamic values and principles, the government would not show any complacency.

He said it was a military government and it would have to see how quickly it is able to restore normalcy in the country. He expressed the confidence that till that time the present government would continue to enjoy the support of the masses.

Referring to the local bodies, he said they were working as democratic institutions and the government was (?working) to demarcate the limits of powers between the administration and these institutions. He said a convention of local bodies' representatives would soon be called in Islamabad for this purpose.

Turning to the Afghan refugees, the president said that about 2 million people from Afghanistan have taken shelter in Pakistan. He said every effort is being made for political solution of the Afghan problem so that they could go back to their homes in honor and peace. Pakistan, he said, will continue to extend all help on humanitarian grounds until they return to their homes.

ZIAUL HAQ LEAVES FOR JIDDA ON GULF PEACE MISSION

BK290642 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq left for Jidda this morning to attend a meeting of the Islamic peace committee being held there today. The meeting will consider proposals put forward by Iran and Iraq in response to the committee's suggestions for establishing peace.

Talking to newsmen before his departure, the president said the response from the two concerned countries to the committee's proposals is encouraging and, God willing, some solution of this issue would be found. When asked whether the two countries have expressed anything to suggest that they would accept the peace committee's proposals, he said no such thing has been expressed, however, we are sure that both countries want to end their fighting. He said both countries are paying attention to the modalities of the cease-fire. The fact is that there is practically no war between the two countries. The president expressed the confidence that the efforts of the Islamic peace committee would help bring about peace between the two countries. In answer to a question, he said the members of the Islamic peace committee will go to Tehran tomorrow and to Baghdad on Tuesday [31 March]. Answering another question, he said during his stay in Jidda he would meet with King Khalid and Prince Fahd. Federal ministers and other high officials saw him off at the airport.

Halim Acting President

BK290725 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] During the absence abroad of President Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, acting Chief Justice of Pakistan Mr Justice Mohammad Halim will be the acting president. Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan, chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Committee, will be the acting chief martial law administrator for the same period.

CONSERVATIVE MUSLIM PARTIES TO BE REACTIVATED

OW271944 Paris AFP in English 1929 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Islamabad, 27 Mar (AFP)--Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq is preparing to allow four conservative Moslem political parties, banned along with other groupings after his coup d'etat in July 1977, to resume activities, an informed Pakistani source said here today.

The four parties are the Pakistani National Aliance, which groups six organizations, the Jamiat-e Ulema Islam, the Pakistani Moslem League and the Jamiat-e Ahle Hadees, the source said. Parties on the left and in the center, including the Tehrik-e Istiqlal and the Pakistan Peoples Party of ex-Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, would still be banned under the move. No indication was given as to what form the parties' activities might take or what kind of voting they might be allowed to participate in after getting clearance from the regime to operate. Recently, Gen Ziaul Haq said in an interview carried by the Pakistani press that he did not plan to hold any elections before two years' time, and that these were likely to be organized without political parties.

ANWARUL HAQ OPPOSES PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION

BK281403 Hong Kong AFP in English 1344 GMT 28 Mar 81

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Islamabad, 28 Mar (AFP)--A provisional constitution promulgated by the Pakistani military regime has triggered strong opposition among senior civilian magistrates, with 17 of 54 judges refusing to take a new oath of office and thus losing their posts.

Today the Karachi Bar Association and the 23-member Sind Bar Council condemned the provisional constitution, which they saw as limiting civilian court powers, and stressed support for the Constitution adopted unanimously in 1973 by the now defunct National Assembly. Mian Tufail Mohammad, chief of the banned Jamiat-e Islami Party, who is normally regarded as a sympathizer of the present regime, today added his opposition to changes in the country's constitutional law. Observers said that the magistrates' departures would not paralyze operations of the judicial system, but that they were embarrassing for Mohammed Ziaul Haq's regime in the light of its efforts to portray changes as steps toward a return to democracy.

Among the 17 leaving office was Chief Justice Anwarul Haq, who said his conscience would not allow him to take the oath. Under the 1973 Constitution, the chief justice became acting president when the chief of state was out of the country. Anwarul Haq was one of the four Supreme Court justices to confirm a death sentence against former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto in 1979. His successor as chief justice, Mohammad Halim, voted against the death sentence. Anwarul Haq said that under the provisional constitution, Pakistanis would have no legal recourse against the powers of the military government. The balance between the rights of individuals and the collective interest had been destroyed, and any judge taking the oath would be agreeing to protect the state, the chief justice held.

The new constitution says that cases heard by military courts cannot be appealed to civilian tribunals. Yesterday, however, Pakistani Information Minister Raja Zafarul Haq said the provision would apply to only a small number of cases. The powers of civilian courts had not been reduced, he held, and no article in the 1973 Constitution had been eliminated from the new text. Of the 10 Supreme Court justices, three others followed the chief justice's lead, as did 8 of 28 judges in Punjab, 2 of 13 in Sind and 2 of 3 in Baluchistan.

President Ziaul Haq yesterday repeated his plans to hold elections within one to two years, and the provisional constitution is linked to the existence of martial law. But the new constitution says that political parties--banned since the July 1977 coup d'etat--may not resume activities until the president allows them to do so. One article effectively perpetuates the ban on the Bhutto Pakistan Peoples Party because of a registration technicality. The constitution gives the government the right to authorize individually a resumption of activities by the 16 parties listed as registered for the elections which were to have been held in 1979. Pakistani press reports indicate that four conservative Islamic parties may be the only groups allowed, for a time at least, to operate officially.

KHOMEYNI, BANI-SADR DISCUSS NATIONAL AFFAIRS

GF291119 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the nation and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, received Dr Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the armed forces, this morning.

PARS reports that the president reported to the imam on the latest situation on the battlefronts and discussed various national affairs with his eminence.

Bani-Sadr on Meeting

LD292204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Excerpt] After his meeting with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, President Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, speaking in a PARS interview on the topics discussed at the meeting with the imam, said that one of the topics discussed at the meeting with the imam was the issue of the war and the fact that we should have one clear approach to these (?delegations) that come to Iran. Mr Bani-Sadr said we do not want every day to add to or take away from what we want, and we do not want to say something different every day and cause ambiguity for our own as well as world opinion.

At any rate, it was decided that if this delegation did come, the three matters we stated, namely, the simultaneous implementation of a cease-fire, a withdrawal [of Iraqi forces] and the principle of investigating the aggression, and also that the basis for resolving and settling issues, should be as in the 1975 Algiers accord. If these three matters were achieved we would achieve our objective, and we will accept any proposal embodying these three matters, otherwise we will not accept. We will fight on until our rights have been vindicated. The imam agrees this is the right thing to do, and it is reasonable. It was decided that we should proceed in this clear way, not to add to or take away from the principles and conditions we ourselves set right from the start of the war, and that we should say we want these very things.

BANI-SADR, KHAMENE'I INTERVIEWED ON PEACE TALKS

LD291806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Interview with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, conducted by unidentified Tehran radio correspondent on 29 March in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] The Supreme Defense Council held a session tonight under the chairmanship of Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the armed forces, and with the participation of Dr Chamran; Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council; Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister; Colonel Fakuri, the minister of defense and commander of the air force; and Morteza Reza'i, commander of the guards corps. At tonight's session the situation on the battlefronts, strategic issues related to the war and the arrival of the At-Ta'if good-will delegation in Iran were discussed. This delegation will arrive in Iran tomorrow [as heard]. I asked Dr Bani-Sadr, the president, about his views concerning the arrival of this delegation:

[Bani-Sadr] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As I said this morning after meeting the imam, we are steadfast concerning the three issues which we raised in response to the proposals of this delegation. If they give us a clear response concerning these issues our expectations will be fulfilled as far as we are concerned.

But if they do not, we will be forced to persist in our stance on these positions. The three issues are as follows: investigation of the aggression; the basis of the solution of the differences, which according to us is the 1975 agreement; and the simultaneous cease-fire and withdrawal of forces. If these positions, which we adopted at the beginning, are realized, fine. Otherwise, we shall continue the war until we achieve our rights.

[Question] In your speeches you have said--at the Nozheh base--that we will not make any concessions. Can you please [Bani-Sadr interrupts]

[Answer] We said the same thing.

[Question] The British Government has announced that this delegation will be successful. As the president and the commander in chief of the armed forces, could you please tell us what Great Britain's role is?

[Answer] I do not know. You should ask the delegation.

[Question] Please tell us your views?

[Answer] We do not know what has gone on between them. What concerns us is that we cannot retreat from the positions that we have taken because retreating from these positions would mean the loss of our sovereignty.

[Question] Thank you very much. Mr Khamene'i, could you please tell us if we will achieve the desired results when the delegation arrives in Iran?

[Khamene'i] We cannot make a prediction. We have expressed our views and we will not retreat from those views. The summary of these views is that we desire an honorable peace, not that we do not desire peace. We did not start the war and until the end we will remain a nation and a government which desire peace. However, it must be a peace in which the legitimate rights of the Iranian and Iraqi nations are obtained and in which the aggressor receives the punishment justice demands.

[Question] In the interview which you had with UPI you referred to the same three conditions. At the end of that report I believe it was said that there is a possibility the Iraqi Government may not regard itself as the aggressor.

[Answer] This is not what I expressed.

[Question] No, I said that UPI [Khamene'i interrupts]

[Answer] If they do not then the situation will remain as it is now. Iraq started the aggression. We have given a reply which is acceptable and would be given by any honorable nation to any aggressor and we will continue to give the same reply.

[Question] Therefore, they should accept the three conditions, otherwise [Khamene'i interrupts]

[Answer] That is correct.

KHAMENE'I LISTS CONDITIONS FOR ENDING WAR

LD282030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council, gave an interview to the ASSOCIATED PRESS today in which he declared the conditions set down by the Islamic Republic of Iran for ending the war imposed on Iran by Iraq. The Central News Bureau quotes the ASSOCIATED PRESS from Beirut:

In this interview, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said that if the conditions set by Iran are not accepted our armed forces are ready to continue the war. Speaking in a telephone interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS, he said that a peace which does not guarantee the rights of the Iranian and Iraqi people and does not provide for the punishment of the aggressor cannot be accepted by Iran.

He said that if an acceptable peace and a logical solution to end the war is not found, our forces are ready to continue the battle. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i set down Iran's conditions for accepting a peace treaty; as follows:

The unconditional withdrawal of the invader forces from Iran's territory;

Punishment of the aggressor and admission that the Iraqi regime is the aggressor in this war;

Acceptance of the 1975 Algiers accord which recognized Iran's sovereignty over half of the Shatt al-'Arab.

He said that although Iran accepted the At-Ta'if conference's role in trying to end the war, nevertheless, as long as the proposed peace does not guarantee Iran's three conditions, such a peace cannot be accepted by Iran. He said: Just as an imposed war is unacceptable, so is an imposed peace.

Referring to the gathering of committee members investigating the war imposed by Iraq on Iran, and to Saddam Husayn's speech last night, in which he discussed the war, the ASSOCIATED PRESS says that punishment of the aggressor, which is among the conditions for peace set down by Iran, cannot possibly be accepted by Iraq.

In answer to a question on the extent of war losses and damage, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said: We do not know when the war will end; this cannot be predicted.

ISLAMIC GOOD OFFICES DELEGATION RETURNS TO TEHRAN

'Arafat Arrives

LD291716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO leader, arrived at Mehrabad Airport accompanied by Hani al-Hasan at 2000 tonight. He was welcomed by Mr 'Ali Reza Nobari and the Palestinian ambassador to Iran.

'Arafat Holds Meetings

GF300755 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] As soon as he arrived in Tehran last night, brother 'Arafat held a 3-hour meeting with President Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. Following the meeting, brother Bani-Sadr held a dinner party in honor of brother 'Arafat and the accompanying Palestinian delegation. Brother 'Arafat arrived from Jidda at 2000 yesterday.

Speaking to newsmen on the future of the Islamic good offices mission talks, 'Arafat said: As a struggler, I am always optimistic.

At midnight yesterday, brother 'Arafat met with the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. During the meeting, views were exchanged on the latest developments in the Palestinian struggle and the imperialist plots to undermine this struggle.

The fraternal and historic bilateral relations that link the two fraternal revolutions--the Islamic revolution, lead by Imam Khomeyni, and the Palestinian revolution--were discussed.

Arrival of Delegation

LD201106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] A Central News Bureau report says that the Islamic Conference mission dealing with the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran arrived in Tehran at 1143 today. The mission was welcomed at Mehrabad Airport by President Bani-Sadr, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, acting Chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces General Fallahi, Defense Minister Colonel Fakuri, Commander of the Navy Captain Afzali and Deputy Commander of the Ground Forces Brigadier General Sharafkarq.

The report adds that the president and the members of the mission, having gone through the ceremony at the airport, held a brief meeting at the airport's VIP lounge.

A PARS report says that at 1250 today Ahmed Sekou Toure, the president of Guinea, privately met with President Bani-Sadr at the Hotel Estiqlal.

MAJLIS UNABLE TO FORM QUORUM; ABSENTEES LISTED

LD300848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Majlis has informed the Central News Bureau that although 165 deputies attended today's Majlis meeting, the Majlis could not meet as there were insufficient deputies to form a quorum. According to the report, the names of unjustified absentees are as follows:

Mehdi Shahabadi, deputy for Tehran; Ahmad Ghazanfarpur, deputy for Lenjan; Faziollah Salavati, deputy for Esfahan; 'Abbas Abu-sa'idi, deputy for Jiroft; Seyyed Hoseyn Pur-Mirghaffari, deputy for Tabriz; Mohammad Reza Amin-Naseri, deputy for Astaneh Ashrafiyeh; A'zam Taleqani [daughter of the late Ayatollah Taleqani], deputy for Tehran; Hasan Behruziyeh, deputy for Kaleybar; Mohammad Hadi 'Abd-Khoda'i, deputy for Mashhad; Mohammad Taqi Kamalinia, deputy for Quchan; Mr Yunes Erfani, deputy for Tavalesh; Fatollah Omid-Najafabadi, deputy for Esfahan; Shahab Mahmudi-Sarkandi, deputy for Borujen; Mowlavi Nazar Mohammad Didgah, deputy for Iranshahr; Sergeyn Beyt-Pushana, deputy for Chaldeans and Assyrians; 'Ali Akbar Masumi, deputy for Emamshahr; Mohammad Mohammadi, deputy for Gorgan; Shahpur Sadequ-Dibi, deputy for Khalkhal; Mohammad 'Ali Tatari, deputy for Zahedan; Seyyed Ahmad Zarkhank, deputy for Dezful; Seyyed Mohammad Taqi Hoseyni-Tabatab'ai, deputy for Zabol; Latif Safari, deputy for Eslamabad-e Gharb; Parviz Malekpur, deputy for Zorastrians; Arsalan Fallah Hojjat-Anzari, deputy for Lahijan; Esma'il Rafi'yan, deputy for Marand; Mohammad Reza Babasafari, deputy for Barkhar; Morteza 'Zami-Lorestani, deputy for Khorramagad; Mohammad 'Ali Montazeri [son of Ayatollah Montazeri, the Friday imam of Qom] deputy for Najafabad; Mohammad 'Ali Heydari, deputy for Nahavand; and Mohammad Shoja'i, deputy for Zajna.

The same report adds that Majlis committees will meet tomorrow, as expected. Deputies have been asked to attend the meetings of these committees. The next open session of the Majlis will be held at 0800 on Sunday, 5 April.

COUNCIL OF GUARDIANS APPROVES MAJLIS DECISIONS

LD291118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the Council of Guardians met this morning. At the meeting, the council discussed the Majlis decisions on empowering the government to submit within 2 months a bill for state ownership of foreign trade. A majority of the council agreed that the Majlis decisions do not contravene the Constitution.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES RAFSANJANI, KHAMENE'I 28 MAR

GF281025 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the nation and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has received Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council and Tehran Friday imam. PARS reports that the leader of the nation heard reports from Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani and Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i and issued instructions and directives to them.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES TEHRAN MAJLIS DEPUTY HEJAZI

GF281137 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the nation and hope of the oppressed, has received Tehran Majlis Deputy Fakreddin Hejazi. Hejazi was accompanied by an Italian Muslim.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES MAJLIS DEPUTY, GOVERNORS

GF281333 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, received Ebrahim Yazdi, Tehran Majlis deputy.

His eminence also received Ilam Governor General engineer Asghar Ebrahim and Hamadan Governor General Dr (Kaynzad) today. During these meetings the imam received reports on the situation in the country. He issued appropriate instructions and directives.

BANI-SADR PAYS VISIT TO HAMADAN AIRBASE 27 MAR

LD261218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that at 1130 today Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the forces, accompanied by Colonel Fakuri, defense minister and air force commander, left Khuzestan Province and arrived at Hamadan's Nozheh Airbase where he was welcomed during military ceremonies. In a welcoming speech one of the base personnel informed the president of the base's activities in the last 6 months.

Then, in recognition of the outstanding self-sacrifice and active participation of the base personnel in war missions and safeguarding the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the war against the aggressive regime of Iraq, the president presented some awards. He then made a speech.

Addresses Personnel

LD271736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, during his visit to Nozheh Airbase, Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief, met the base's personnel and their families and spoke to them. In his speech he said:

The fact is that any generation determined to achieve its goal must not accept any excuses. We must defend our homeland and soil and prevent them from falling into the hands of aliens. These are our young men who are thwarting aggression with their self-sacrifice. Our air force demonstrated one of its astonishing feats through unreserved selflessness, great sacrifice and extraordinary acts. As I pointed out, you are making history. It was you under the former regime, as you are now; but under the former regime such initiatives were lacking. [sentence as heard]

He added: Saddam is taking pleasure in shelling our towns; he has made nearly 2.5 million people of this country homeless. If the past generation followed the rulers it was because, as they were saying, it did not know any better. However, the present generation says: We follow because we know, because we are Muslims. Needless to say, difficulty, hardship, inconvenience, homelessness and many other things are part of war. War in itself is no good; it is almost [as heard] contrary to logic and human nature. Our imam told the armed forces: Do not start the war; let the enemy wage it first. For he did not wish to see peace disrupted by Islamic soldiers. As for Saddam and his followers, they must remember that we had no fear of Carter and Reagan, let alone someone like Saddam.

Returns to Tehran

GF281344 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, returned to Tehran this morning after inspecting the battlefront in Khuzestan Province. Dr Bani-Sadr stopped over in Hamadan for 24 hours during which he inspected Nozheh Airbase.

AFP: BANI-SADR GIVEN PETITION ON JAIL CONDITIONS

NC291712 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 29 Mar (AFP)--A delegation of political prisoners' relatives has given President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr a petition demanding better jail conditions and an investigation into charges of torture in Iranian prisons, MIZAN newspaper said today.

Mr Bani-Sadr had promised the families to open an investigation and notify them of its results, a spokesman for the president told AFP.

MIZAN, considered pro-liberal, said the petitioners asked yesterday for a "serious" investigation into prisoners' allegations of torture in prisons and detention houses.

They also wanted prisoners to be allowed visitors regularly and without revolutionary guards in attendance, to have free access to news (through newspapers and radio), to have permission to read the Koran, another holy book--the book of 'Ali--and the works of Ayatollah Taleqani, nicknamed the "red ayatollah", who died a year ago.

In addition the petitioners wanted better food and hygiene for prisoners, MIZAN said.

The daily quoted one woman from the group as saying that her son, a leftist sympathizer, had told her when she visited Evin Prison (north of the capital) that he had been tortured. Another woman said she had been arbitrarily detained for 48 hours even though she had an official pass to visit her jailed daughter.

RAJA'I INSPECTS ABADAN FRONT, VISITS WOUNDED

GF271825 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] Prime Minister brother Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i arrived in Abadan this morning accompanied by a number of ministers and Majlis deputies. After an inspection visit to the army headquarters, he left for the battlefront. After that, he returned to Abadan to participate in Friday prayers.

In a statement to our correspondent about the situation on the front, the prime minister said: The morale of our fighters on the front is very high. They exert much effort to establish God's rule and to implement Islamic and Koranic teachings. Brother Raja'i then visited the clinic of the war wounded.

RAJA'I CONTINUES VISIT TO KHUZESTAN PROVINCE

GF281644 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Prime Minister brother Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i continues his inspection visit to Khuzestan Province. This afternoon he and a number of ministers inspected the (Sakaniyeh) residential unit in the city of Behbehan in which more than 100,000 of our brother and sister victims of the Iraqi blatant aggression against Iran reside. He expressed the hope that, through our steadfastness and resistance, we will obliterate the traces of Saddam's aggression from our land.

Brother Raja'i and his entourage inspected another residential unit for war victims in Mahshahr. PARS reports that the prime minister then held a meeting with Khuzestan officials in which he discussed means of resolving problems. The agency adds that brother Raja'i participated in the noon prayer service in the revolution guards headquarters in Behbehan, after which he delivered a speech to the martyrs' families in the city. While praising the martyrs' valor, he said: Martyrdom is the aspiration of every faithful Muslim. He prayed for a long life for the imam of the nation, who is the symbol of Muslim unity.

During the past 2 days brother Raja'i inspected the positions of our Muslim forces on the southern front.

Returns to Tehran

GF291142 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Prime Minister brother Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i returned to Tehran this morning following a tour of the country's southern provinces during which he was accompanied by a number of ministers. During this tour, brother Raja'i visited the following towns: (Piroq), Pasha, Jahrom, Marv Dasht, Mahshahr, Behbehan and Ahvaz and inspected the positions of the soldiers of Islam on the southern battlefronts.

PARS reports that the brother prime minister performed the Maghrib and 'Isha' prayers with the soldiers of Islam on one of the Susangerd fronts last night and then listened to the reports of the military commanders, who briefed him on the situation on the Hamidiyeh and Susangerd fronts.

Brother Raja'i had dinner with the soldiers of Islam in one of the tents before returning to Ahvaz last night.

RABBANI SHIRAZI ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

Council of Guardians Statement

LD290916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that following an attempt on the life of Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, a statement was issued by the Public Relations Office of the Council of Guardians of the Constitution. It says:

In His exalted name. An attempt was made on the life of Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, one of the theologians of the Council of Guardians and the imam's representative in Fars Province, by someone on a motorcycle in front of Hafex Hospital in Shiraz. Although he was wounded in the neck, the ayatollah's condition is satisfactory and, by the grace of God, the treacherous assassin or assassins did not succeed in carrying out their doomed plan. Following this incident, the officials in charge are investigating the matter and trying to follow up on the assassins.

[Signed] The Public Relations Office of the Council of Guardians

Khomeyni Cable

GF291738 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the nation, has sent the following congratulatory cable to Hojjat ol-Eslam Rabbani Shirazi, member of the Council of Guardians, on the occasion of his escape from the abortive assassination attempt last night:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Eminence Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Rabbani Shirazi, may your blessings continue. I was informed of the abortive assassination attempt against Your Eminence. Such resistance against the committed religious ulema by the perverted and perverse people is aimed at expelling the committed people and thinkers from the theater, ignoring the fact that history has proved that the conscious religious ulema are the avant-garde of all political marches. Assassinating these personalities will not weaken them or prepare the way for the enemies of Islam and the homeland. Thank God for your escape from this attempt and I wish you a prompt recovery to continue your services to Islam and to the homeland. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Rabbani Shirazi has received more cables from religious and political personalities and from figures all over the country condemning this heinous criminal act planned by the enemies of Islam.

Forqan Claims Responsibility

NC291326 Paris AFP in English 1318 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 29 Mar (AFP)--An extreme Iranian Islamic socialist group, Forqan, has claimed responsibility for the wounding yesterday of Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, a member of the constitutional council, the ETTELA'AT newspaper reported here today.

Ayatollah Shirazi, who is also the representative of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni in Fars Province, was shot in the neck by two gunmen on a motorbike in Shiraz, capital of Fars Province.

His condition was not critical, Tehran radio reported.

In the past, Forqan has reportedly claimed responsibility for the 1979 murders of Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari, a member of the Revolutionary Council, and of Taqi Tarkhani, a Moslem leader close to Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Suspects Arrested

LD201146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report from Shiraz, yesterday evening two people were arrested. They are suspected of being involved in the attempted assassination of Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi. The same report, quoting a judge at Shiraz Islamic Revolution Court, says that so far no evidence substantiating the two persons' involvement in the attempted assassination has been obtained. The report adds that the two individuals have been arrested because of their affiliation with and support for the Forqan group and investigations into their past activities; they have both denied their involvement in the attempted assassination.

Further on Arrests

GF300846 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 30 Mar 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI says the authorities arrested two persons in Shiraz yesterday who are suspected of involvement in the assassination attempt on Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi. The newspaper adds that the authorities have launched nationwide investigations to uncover the crime.

In searching the houses of the two arrested persons, large quantities of leaflets belonging to the Forqan underground organization were discovered. Some leaflets prepared by the organization to explain its reasons for carrying out the assassination attempt on Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi were also discovered.

According to JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI and MIZAN, Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi is in satisfactory condition and is being treated in a Shiraz hospital.

Assassination Attempt Condemned

GF291703 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1430 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] The members of the Shabestar economic reconstruction crusade and the Islamic revolution guards have issued a (?joint) statement condemning the dastardly plot to assassinate Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi.

ESPIONAGE TRIAL OF AMIR ENTEZAM CONTINUES

More on 28 Mar Session

LD290808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] The second session of the trial of 'Abbas Amir Entezam, the deputy prime minister and spokesman of the provisional government, was held this morning at the Islamic Revolution Court of the Central Province. The session began with verses from the Koran. The Central News Bureau reports that Ayatollah Gilani, the presiding judge, said: Spying is treason against the prophet of God and the imams of our religion.

According to the same report, 'Abbas Amir Entezam then began his defense and asked that his trial be broadcast on the radio and television.

In another part of his defense, he said: I will prove that the documents submitted are forged and all lies.

At the end of this session Ayatollah Gilani, the religious judge, answered the points protested by the accused.

Third Session

LD292052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the third session of the trial of 'Abbas Amir Entezam started at 1030 today with the recitation of some verses from the glorious Koran in the first branch of the Islamic Revolution Court of Tehran.

At today's session of the court, domestic and foreign reporters were present and Messrs Ahmad Sadr Hajj Seyyed-Javadi and Yadollah Sahabi were present as witnesses.

At the beginning of the session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Gilani commented on the verses which had been recited. Then, 'Abbas Amir Entezam continued his defense.

The session was adjourned at 1230 for a break. In order to fulfill the wishes of the accused to have a longer period for study and selection of a lawyer within the context of the judicial laws, the next session was postponed until Saturday, 4 April.

AFP: BEHESHTI ASKED TO RELINQUISH JUDICIAL POST

NC290943 Paris AFP in English 1032 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 29 Mar (AFP)--A newspaper considered close to moderate former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan today criticized Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti for retaining leadership of the Islamic Republic Party while working as president of the Supreme Court.

Without naming the ayatollah, the newspaper MIZAN called for him to relinquish his post at the head of the judiciary.

The article said that "possibly when the Supreme Court chief accepted the post he saw no contradiction with this and his party leadership."

But MIZAN continued that Iranian society had so evolved that it was impossible for him to lead a political party and at the same time "judge impartially the acts of an individual who had plotted to overthrow the president of the republic."

The newspaper referred, without naming him, to a senior IRP official, Hassan Ayat, who called recently for President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr's removal.

MIZAN also charged that, as party leader, the Supreme Court chief could not judge impartially between rival political groups.

The article concluded by regretting that if Ayatollah Beheshti failed to step down "the nation will lose confidence in the judiciary."

MARCH TO BE HELD ON 1 APR ISLAMIC REPUBLIC DAY

LD261800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 81

[Excerpts] The Central News Bureau reports that the coordinating council of Islamic publicity has issued a statement in connection with a march scheduled to take place on Islamic Republic Day [1 April]. A special ceremony to mark the day will be held in Tehran at Azadi Square with a message from the imam of the nation. Esteemed theologian Ayatollah Jannati, member of the Council of Guardians, will make a speech. The routes of the march will be announced later.

KHAMENE'I URGES PARTICIPATION IN 1 APR MARCH

LD271244 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] Today the Muslim people of Tehran replied to the prophetic call of the hope of the oppressed of the world, Imam Khomeyni, in harmony with the crowded ranks of the self-sacrificing forces of Islam against the forces of blasphemy and universal arrogance in the western and southern regions of our homeland, and took part in the first prayers of the new year at the meeting place of those who love God, Tehran University. They rubbed their foreheads on the threshold before the only creator to reject all the evils of the era.

During today's Friday prayers at Tehran University, Ayatollah Yusof Sane'i, a member of the Council of Guardians, first made some remarks. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran's Friday imam, then read the prayer sermons. In part of his sermon, the Friday imam of Tehran said:

[Begin recording] Our Muslim and struggling Iraqi brothers, inside their own country and under the jackboot of the agents of the superpowers, continue their resistance under the most severe torture. Despite the alien oppression in that country, these combatants continue inflicting damages on their enemy. Iraqi Armed Forces retreat from battlefronts in large groups. During recent weeks, according to some reports, the number of deserters from the Iraqi forces is increasing (?day by day) and is very high. If these statistics are accurate, we can be certain that the victory of truth against falsehood is not far away.

Of course, the reactionary agents of the region and the traitorous rulers affiliated with the United States are equipping Iraq financially; they sent weapons, tanks and cannons to that country. But what are they going to do about manpower? Will the Muslim people of Jordan, Egypt and the Muslim and deprived people of Morocco fight against their Muslim brothers for the sake of the agent Saddam's selfish interest? I think not.

If the Muslim forces of Iraq are unable to resist the government of the believers of God and the revolutionary nation of Iran, then we certainly do not expect those who come from other countries to be able to do so. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, continue on your way with hope, prayers, kindness and with God in your minds.

God willing, this year will be the year of unity and of the victory that will result from this unity. God willing, your participation in the marches of 1 April, the day of the Islamic Republic, will be a symbol of our great Islamic unity. I am grateful to all those foundations that have accepted this invitation and in turn invited other Muslim brothers and sisters to take part. I seriously call upon you brothers and sisters to try to make these marches on 1 April a powerful blow to the mouths of the ill-wishers and the blackhearted people. All should take part and complete the marches calmly. Avoid chanting tension-creating slogans and do not allow the chaosmongers to chant slogans that might create crises, tension and discord.

We have many slogans that express our aspirations and ideals; why should we not chant positive slogans? Why should we help to intensify a crisis and tension which the enemy might create? [end recording]

MONTAZERI ASKS BALUCHIS, KURDS TO PROTECT BORDERS

LD271246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Excerpts] [passage indistinct] Before the Qom Friday prayer sermons today Mr Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs, made a speech. Then the esteemed jurisconsult His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri began the prayer sermons.

In his second sermon, referring to a number of Baluchi brothers who were present, he asked that all Baluchi and Kurdish compatriots protect the borders in the east and the west of the country for Islam and God's satisfaction; that they be careful lest they be fooled by the propaganda of the enemies of Islam aimed at creating religious and racial conflicts; that they should know that such divisive actions stem from the colonialistic At-Ta'if conference, held on Kissinger's recommendation.

MIZAN REPORTS DECLINE OF NATION'S ECONOMY

NC291250 Paris AFP in English 1236 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 29 Mar (AFP)--The Iranian economy is in general decline two years after the revolution, with a slump in currency reserves and a growing budget deficit, according to a report by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

The report, published yesterday by the MIZAN paper, said that first Central Bank estimates indicated that gross national product in constant terms fell by nine per cent in 1978 and 13 per cent in 1979.

Noting that growth has been negative for three consecutive years, including 1980, the report said there was a situation of "economic stagnation accompanied by unemployment and inflation".

Agriculture and fisheries, which grew by some six per cent in 1978, slumped by about 2.5 per cent in 1979, and the most optimistic forecasts for the outcome of 1980 speak of a zero growth rate, the report added.

The halt of oil exports in the last months of 1978 and throughout 1979 marked a turning point in the country's economic development and amounted to a great success for the Islamic revolution, the report said.

Oil production had been reduced by 29 per cent in 1978 and 23 per cent in 1979, and the role of oil in gross national product had fallen from 36 per cent in 1977 to 26 per cent in 1979.

The mining and construction sectors experienced a 17 per cent slump in 1978 and a similar decline the following year with the tendency continuing in 1980. Service and related industries slumped by about 11 per cent in 1979.

The country's foreign currency reserves totalled $10 billion in March 1980 despite the freezing of Iranian assets abroad during the hostage crisis.

The reserves fell between March and September when currency outgoings rose by 40 per cent. As oil exports resumed after the outbreak of the war with Iraq, dollar reserves in February this year were no higher than some 4,000 million.

The report stressed that 95 per cent of currency earnings come from the sale of oil, but warned that high oil exports were inflationary.

The report said that the budget deficit was 355 billion rials (about $46.8 billion) in 1978, rising to 500 billion in 1979 and 800 billion in 1980, with no sign of the trend changing.

Prices rose by between ten and 12 per cent in 1978 and in 1979 and were expected to have shown a 27 per cent rise in 1980.

The report said the major problem in dealing with these trends was general insecurity and the lack of well defined property laws, coupled with job insecurity and the fact that experts were kept apart from the real economy.

FACILITIES EXPANDED, TRAFFIC EASED ON SOVIET BORDER

LD271521 [Fditorial Report] Tehran KEYHAN in Persian on 18 March carries on page 11 a KEYHAN correspondent's report from Tabriz on the expansion of fuel storage and customs facilities at the Soviet-Iran border city of Jolfa and the easing of the flow of rail and truck traffic. The report emphasizes the "remarkable achievements" of the delegation sent from the prime minister's office in sorting out problems and bottlenecks at Jolfa. These had mainly been delays in loading and unloading of trucks and railroad cars, resulting in the payment of heavy surcharges, delays in customs inspections, and the shortage of filling stations, fuel and adequate facilities for drivers.

After 45 days of concentrated effort the team had apparently secured an increase in the number of trucks passing through each day from 220 to 840. The KEYHAN correspondent also reports a ceremony held to mark the opening of a 1 million-liter fuel depot. This was attended by Imam Jomeh of Jolfa Hojjat ol-Eslam Dadizadeh, the officials of the delegation from the prime minister's office and local civic dignitaries. Another achievement noted was the construction of the second railroad track.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 448-450

448: Artillery Duels Continue

LD271750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Communique 448 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Struggling Muslim nation of Iran: The situation on the western and southern battlefronts of the Islamic country of Iran and the activities of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are brought to your attention:

1. Southern fronts: The selfless personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran last night opened fire on enemy positions on the Abadan front and destroyed an enemy ammunition depot and a fuel tanker; 17 Iraqis were killed or injured in this operation.

In the Ahvaz region our courageous forces destroyed two enemy trenches and killed or injured six of Saddam's soldiers. The enemy is continuing its cowardly attacks and is shelling the city of Abadan with artillery and mortars. These attacks have killed 2 of our compatriots, injured 22 and inflicted damage on a number of houses.

In the heroic operations carried out by units of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Shush region, 2 trenches of the Iraqi aggressors were destroyed and 15 of their forces were killed or wounded. In the (Eynkhosh) region one enemy vehicle was destroyed by our forces.

2. Western fronts: Exchanges of artillery fire continued between the selfless forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Iraqi invaders om the (?Zil), Kan-e Sakht, Malekshahi, Helali and Meymak heights. In Kan-e Sakht six enemy trenches were destroyed.

In the border areas of Marivan, the fighting forces of Islam opened artillery fire on enemy positions on the (?Panjdayn) and (?Khormal) garrisons in Iraq and inflicted heavy damage on the enemy, the exact extent of which is not yet known. The fighting Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran recaptured one of the heights in the western regions of our country and forced the enemy to retreat.

Yesterday, the forces of Islam, including the army, the gendarmerie and the guards corps, pounded the positions of the illegally armed groups around Saddeq during coordinated operations. They captured 12 assailants and seized 2 firearms, 1 vehicle and some equipment. Also, on 25 and 26 March, two Muslim soldiers and seven Iraqi civilians who could no longer tolerate the suppression of the Baghdad rulers and its agents took refuge in the Islamic country and were welcomed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

449: Skirmishes Along Fronts

LD281742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Communique 449 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. A part of the activities and the situation at the war fronts are hereby brought to the attention of our dear revolutionary compatriots of Iran.

1. On the Marivan front the exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire between our selfless forces and the forces of the Iraqi Army continued today. As a result of fire by champion fighters, two cannons belonging to the enemy in the Panjwin region in Iraq were destroyed and a number of Saddam's mercenaries were killed or injured. Also, military positions belonging to the enemy in (Kharmal) and some other locations in Iraq came under heavy fire by our forces which resulted in heavy damages and casualties to the forces of blasphemy.

2. On the Abadan and Darkhovin fronts positions held by Iraqi aggressors came under artillery and mortar fire by the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the enemy in turn opened fire on residential areas in Abadan and on our positions, as a result of which 2 of the civilian brothers from Abadan were martyred and 12 were wounded and some damage was done to houses. Iraqi positions in the occupied part of Khuninshahr came under heavy fire by our forces and one of the enemy's assembly points was destroyed and a number of enemy personnel were either killed or injured. Gendarmerie fighters on this front succeeded in destroying a concrete entrenchment belonging to the enemy and set fire to an enemy fuel tank. These fighters suffered two casualties.

3. Three invading planes belonging to Saddam's armed forces that intended to violate the airspace of two of our border towns yesterday were forced to flee because of defensive antiaircraft fire by the forces stationed in the region.

4. In the 25 March operations the selfless fighters of the ground forces suffered eight martyrs, the heroes of the gendarmerie five martyrs and the police force one martyr, all of whom sacrificed their lives to protect this land and gave their lives for the Islamic revolution.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

450: 28 Mar Operations

LD291844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Communique 450 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran continue to be determined to repulse the enemies of our Islamic revolution and endeavor to crush the enemy with the support of the Muslim nation. The operations of the right-seeking soldiers of Islam and the situation on battlefronts over the past 24 hours have been as follows:

1. In the Karkheh region the artillery fire of the ground forces on enemy positions destroyed several tanks and about 30 Iraqi personnel; the aggressive forces were forced to pull back, having suffered casualties. In these operations two of our warriors were wounded.

2. On the Bahmanshir, Khuninshahr and the bank of the Arvand Rud fronts, the two sides continued to exchange fire. In the Abadan region, our combatants' artillery destroyed two enemy tanks, one machinegun, one vehicle and several foxholes and trenches.

3. In the Ahvaz region sporadic exchange of fire continued and units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran succeeded in destroying one loader and several foxholes belonging to the Iraqi aggressors and in killing and injuring a number of them.

4. Mortar shelling by the criminal Iraqis damaged several homes and public buildings in Abadan. Six of our compatriots were martyred in this city and 23 others injured.

5. On the western fronts, particularly the Gilan-e Gharb region, exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued between our heroic combatants and the shaky forces of Saddam. In Kan-e Sakht and Shur-e Shirin enemy positions came under the fire of our warriors. In these operations a number of trenches belonging to the Iraqi forces were destroyed and a number of Iraqis were killed and wounded.

6. The ground-to-air units of the Armed Froces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who are alertly defending the country's air space day and night, discovered in time a number of invading Iraqi aircraft that had appeared over southern border towns and forced them to flee.

7. On 28 March, on the battlefronts of truth against falsehood, three of the combatants of the ground forces and two of the combative personnel of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran achieved the very lofty status of martyrdom.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI ON CLASHES WITH QASHQA'I

NC300744 Paris AFP in English 0734 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 30 Mar (AFP)--A revolutionary guard was killed recently in clashes with nomads in the southern Fars Province, the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper reported today.

The report said that the shooting broke out near the town of Firuzabad, wintering spot of Iran's largest nomad tribe, the 500,000-strong Qashqa'is.

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC said that the nomads took seven prisoners during the clashes, whom they released after lengthy negotiations with the governor of the province.

RADIO IRAN REVIEWS STRUGGLES OF QASHQA'I TRIBE

NC281718 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] As you, our dear compatriots, were informed by our news bulletin, the brave and patriotic Qashqa'i strugglers have resumed their fight against the dictatorship of Mullah Ruhollah Khomeyni and, in the commencement of the second phase of their holy fight to liberate Iran, they clashed in Farrashband of Fars with the criminal revolution guards, incurring heavy defeat on them. Our comrades-in-arm report that in the first clash more than 50 revolution guards were "sent to paradise."

The interesting point is that the news on the number of revolution guards killed in various parts of the country is always followed by a wave of happiness and hope by the people, even though these revolution guards are, at any rate, a group of people of this same homeland. This is because they are a corps of ruffians, knife wielders and lackeys and also because they have passed the limit of oppression and aggression against the honor, lives and properties of the people and have drawn the country into chaos. So, when the people hear news on their losses they do not hide their joy, and this time, too, the news on the victory of the brave Qashqa'is has set off a wave of joy and hope among the people. And this at a time when our other struggling and freedom-wanting compatriots in Kordestan, Azarbayjan and Baluchestan continue their fight against the bloodthirsty demon, Ruhollah Khomeyni, and score new victories each day.

Our Qashqa'i compatriots who have repeatedly and proudly shown their love for freedom and patriotism were always and continue to be the targets of the oppression of dictatorship ruling the country. If we turn back a little we will remember that in the period of Iran's national struggles headed by the great Dr Mohammad Mossadeq, the Qashaq'is, as devoted comrades of that great man of Iran's history, played an extremely important role in the struggles. In the years preceding that the brave Qashqa'i patriots did all they could to prevent the infiltration of British colonialism in the southeast and did not refrain from any self-sacrifice and devotion in so doing. If it was not for the treason committed by the proforeigners and traitors, the British might not have ever gained domination in southern Iran.

In these glorious struggles, our Qashqa'i brothers were not alone and in most instances the brave people of Boyer Ahmad and Mamasani, brave people in plains and gorges have fought next to the Qashsa'is to preserve Iran's independence and freedom. Now, too, when the independence and national sovereignty and the freedom of the Iranian people is facing one of the biggest dangers of its history, the Qashqa'is, as the other patriots and freedom wanters, have risen to preserve Iran and have started their holy war against the enemies of Iran.

We press the warm hands of the brave Qashqa'is with sincerity and congratulate their victory against the tyrant of the ages. We are confident that with the efforts of all the children of Iran our dear homeland will be soon freed from the clutches of domestic and foreign enemies.

Compatriots, if you join the strugglers who are fighting in the four corners of Iran for the sake of freedom, the day of salvation will be closer.